

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 06625 181557Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 AID-05 ACDA-07
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R 181548Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7459
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 06625

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, CG, GW
SUBJECT: FRG REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON U.S. AFRICAN
POLICY

REF: BONN 06410 (NOTAL)

1. DURING A MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER ON APRIL 18 ON ANOTHER SUBJECT (SEPTEL -- NOTAL), HE ASKED ABOUT THE U.S. POSITION ON ZAIRE AND REFERRED TO PRESS REPORTS THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD CHARGED THE VICE-PRESIDENT WITH FORMULATING A NEW U.S. POLICY APPROACH TOWARD AFRICA. GENSCHER ASKED WHETHER I HAD ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THIS AND WHEN THE VICE-PRESIDENT WAS EXPECTED TO COMPLETE HIS WORK.

2. I RESPONDED THAT I HAD NO INFORMATION AT THE MOMENT, BUT THAT I EXPECTED THE NEW APPROACH WOULD BE FORMULATED AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE. REGARDING THE U.S. POSITION ON ZAIRE, I SAID THE U.S. HAD EXPRESSED ITS SUPPORT FOR ZAIRE'S TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND HAD

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 06625 181557Z

PROVIDED SOME NON-LETHAL SUPPLIES.

3. GENSCHER REFERRED TO THE MAY MEETING OF THE GERMAN-ZAIRE MIXED COMMISSION (REFTEL) AND SAID HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA IF HE WERE TO LEAD THE COMMISSION. HE ALSO NOTED THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS WOULD BE DISCUSSING AFRICA IN LONDON TODAY AND EMPHASIZED THE

IMPORTANCE OF THE U.S. AND EUROPEANS REMAINING IN CLOSE CONTACT ON THIS ISSUE. HE SAID HE DID NOT KNOW IF THE BRITISH, AS EC-9 PRESIDENT, HAD BEEN IN CONTACT WITH US, BUT THAT HE PLANNED TO RECOMMEND THAT THEY DO SO FOLLOWING THE LONDON MEETING.

4. GENSCHER CONTINUED THAT HE WAS WORRIED ABOUT AFRICA, IN PARTICULAR BY THE RIGID SOUTH AFRICAN AND RHODESIAN ATTITUDES WHICH OFFERED THE SOVIET UNION AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE UNDESERVED PROGRESS ON THE CONTINENT.

5. I RESPONDED THAT FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN HAD BEEN IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH US REGARDING A NEW GENEVA CONFERENCE AND I WELCOMED GENSCHER'S OFFER FOR THE EUROPEANS TO REMAIN IN TOUCH WITH US ON THESE IMPORTANT ISSUES.

6. COMMENT: ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION THE DEPARTMENT COULD PROVIDE ON ZAIRE OR AFRICAN POLICY IN GENERAL FOR PASSING TO THE FRG WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

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